NILES' WEEKLY REGISTER.

NEW SERIES. No. 17—VOL. XI.] BALTIMORE, DEC. 28, 1822. [No. 17—VOL. XXIII. WHOLE No. 589

THE PAST—THE PRESENT—FOR THE FUTURE.

EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY H. NILES, AT $5 PER ANNUM, PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.

☞We are of those who believe it wrong to commence the discussion of a subject, unless a disposition is manifested to regard what may be temperately urged on either side or party at issue—hence we have several times inserted addresses and essays in direct opposition to our own opinions about national industry, well knowing that those opinions do not constitute facts; and, being requested, we now publish the political part of Dr. Jones' address to the Nottoway Agricultural society: on which we may, respectfully, offer some remarks hereafter.

It is by this practice that, as we believe, the public reason is best consulted, and the people most powerfully induced to act on important subjects and occasions—hearing the argument and knowing the intent of both parties to any matter, they feel an interest in it which they could not otherwise have.

☞An article in reply to one of the points assumed by the Boston "Merchant," in the last REGISTER, has been received—but too late for insertion in the present sheet.

THE DOCUMENTS. We commence a publication of the documents which accompanied the president's message, and shall select out of the volume such as we believe to be most needful to the public intelligence, it not being in our power to give the whole *in extenso*. In this proceeding, the president appears to have adopted a new plan, and one, (we think), that will prevent many calls for information on subjects of interest to the nation and its representatives, and save a great deal of time and trouble.

TREASURY REPORT. We present the annual treasury report—a paper which, after the message of the president, always claims the first attention of the nation. Its length has materially interfered with the proposed contents of this sheet and excluded many small articles.

THE PIRATES. Com. Porter is already in motion—he arrived in Baltimore on Thursday evening last week, and, as it were before any one knew that he was here, he had purchased and *sent off* to Norfolk, all the light vessels designed to act against the pirates—they sailed in less than 48 hours after he reached this city. The next day he proceeded to the north in search of a steam-boat.

UNITED STATES' BANK. Nicholas Biddle and John Connolly, of Philadelphia, H. Eckford, of New York, E. I. Dupont, of Delaware, and John McKim, of Baltimore, have been appointed directors of this bank, on the part of the government.

NEXT PRESIDENT. An unsuccessful attempt has been made, at a meeting of the legislature of Ohio, to nominate a person to be supported for the next presidency. It was decided by a majority of three votes, that it was inexpedient to go into any nomination, at that time.

NORTH CAROLINA. John Branch has been elected a senator of the United States, for six years from the 4th of March next, by a small majority, over Montford Stokes, the present member. Six or seven ballots were had before a choice was made.

It is strangely intimated that the presidential election had something to do with this contest—perhaps not; for it has been said that the late election of a senator from Maryland had a relation to the presidency, which we do not believe—never having heard the fact suggested until we saw it in print in the Washington Gazette. But the truth is, that the presidential election is running into things that have no rightful connection with it, out of which much evil will probably be produced.

SILK GOODS. A writer in a Boston paper, urging the levy of a tax or duty of 25 per cent. *ad valorem* on silk goods, instead of the present rate of 15 per cent. says that such goods to the value of $1,318,237, have been imported at that place alone, in the three first quarters of the present year. The duty thereon at 15 per cent. is 231,441 dollars—at 25, it would amount to 385,736; difference 154,295. It is not probable that this advance on the duty would affect the consumption at all; and it would have some little tendency to equalize the amount of the taxes paid by the rich and the poor, many articles that have become necessaries through custom, are taxed at the rate of *fifty per cent. ad. val.*

COUNTERFEIT MARKS. The Delaware Watchman has an article which notices the *importation* of a quantity of goods ticketed thus—"*Indigo blues, manufactured by J. Steele & Co. Philadelphia.*" But the colors are fugitive, and the goods of an inferior quality. The name of *J. G. Oliver*, of Philadelphia, is given in the importer. This is right—public opinion will do all else that is necessary. A record should be kept of all persons who thus injure the reputation of our manufacturers to defend the people—and the list should be repeatedly published, that their names may become as familiar to every one, as that of *Arnold* was in the revolution.

CIDER. The Portsmouth Journal states that the society of Shakers in Canterbury, N. H. have, within three weeks, sold *ten* barrels of cider in Boston, for which they received *one hundred* dollars in cash. Good common cider has been selling in the same town for one dollar a barrel. Such is the difference between good and very good!

☞Here is shewn the difference between *production* and *perfection*. The expense of carrying the indifferent cider to market is as great as that of the good—if that cost is 25 cents per barrel, it acts upon the value of the former so as to reduce it one fourth; but the reduction of the value of the latter is only a *fortieth* part. It is thus that thousands of articles, the produce of our country, are of little value for the want of a home market, or such a degree of improvement as will support the cost of transport to a distant one.

COMMITTEES. The Albany Daily Advertiser remarks, that though the state of New York has thirty members in congress, not one of them is a presiding member of a standing committee in either branch of the national legislature.

VIRGINIA. Able writers in the Richmond "Enquirer," are calling the attention of the people to the question "what shall be done for the university?" and inviting the legislature to place its hopes in the western counties. These are matters of great interest to the people of that state. They are drained of many tens of thousands of dollars every year for the education of their youth, yet they have a "literary fund" that might, and ought, to raise up every needful establishment within themselves. They have a back country equal to any in the world—but that country has always been neglected, and the freemen who inhabit it are denied an equality of rights with those of the eastern section of the commonwealth.

The *reason* of these things I attempted to shew in the 21st volume of this work, page 201. My remarks on that occasion, I know, offended the *pride* of many Virginians, though they acknowledged the *justice* of all that I said—and *so pride acted against truth*. The fact is, as I then said, that, "unhappily, the splendid talents of the accomplished and learned men which she abounds, have been more applied to discuss and settle abstract questions of right, than to accomplish positive benefits." An able and eloquent *report* about the university or concerning the literary fund, has been more regarded than the *practical operation* of the university or *careful application* of that fund. It is just exactly the difference between *talking* and *acting*. How are the resources of the small state of Connecticut to be compared with those of Virginia?--yet Yale college has 400 students, and the youths of Virginia are sent from home to be educated! The capital of her literary fund is not less than 1,250,000 dollars —what might not be done with this if her legislators and people were resolved to *do?* Her fund for internal improvements amounts to more than a million and a half—but what internal improvement has been made?—though year after year they have been *surveying* and *reporting*. They have been longer engaged in those things than New York will require to mix the waters of the *Lake of the Woods* with those of the *Atlantic*, and cast those of the *Hudson* into the *St. Lawrence*. Is not this true?—and yet look at the present state of the literary institutions of New York; they are, in every way, of a superior character, from horn-book learning to the most exalted branches of science, all raised up and supported by *practical* legislation. And, if we compare Virginia with the eastern states, how stands the case in respect to those matters? How vast the difference between application and exposition—practice and theory!

If the western parts of Virginia had been regarded as they ought; if they had received *common justice* from the hands of the legislature of the state, we agree with the writer in the "Enquirer," that she might have had "thirty representatives in congress instead of her present humble number of twenty-two." The table published in the last volume of this work, page 346, should rouse the exertion and provoke the liberality of the legislators of Virginia. Let us make an abstract of that table as applicable to the case;

Representatives in congress,

	1790	1800	1810	1820	(probable) 1830
Virginia	19	22	23	22	19
New York	10	17	27	34	40
Pennsylvania	13	18	23	26	26
Ohio	0	1	6	14	19

What a decline of power!—One great cause of this, (though there is a far greater cause), is the jealousy of the little barren eastern countries at the progress of the large and luxuriant west—this jealousy has effect through the operation of the wretched provision in the constitution of the state, which may be said to give legislative representation to a second growth of dwarf *pine trees* in one section as to a growth of *freemen* in the other, adopting the British *Old Sarum* principle and abusing every rule of equity and honesty known amongst men. All attempts to raise up the west, by giving to the people those rights which our fathers took up the sword to obtain in 1776, have been resisted by the little eastern counties, feeling power and forgetting right, though one in the west, in regard to population, wealth and physical force, ought to have the weight of half a score of them. Some of these almost deserted counties have hardly 200 free white males in them above the age of 26 years —yet they send *two* members to the legislature—how prolific must they be in *statesmen!* The greatest county in the state has no more than two delegates. Now look again at New York—her back counties, that were a wilderness a little while ago, now contain almost as many people as the whole state of Virginia, her slaves included! But New-York has legislated as well for the western as for the southern counties, and the whole have prospered under the *equal* care of a liberal and enlightened policy. Virginia must look to the west—she must do *justice* to the west, and release the people thereof from their political bondage, by which she will obtain *practical* men in her councils—or be content to take a very inferior rank in the grade of the states, *in every respect.*

The people of Virginia are proud—but their pride *does* nothing. It is *mere pride*—that will acknowledge the truth of the preceding remarks, and yet be displeased because they are made—though it is evident that a desire for the prosperity of the state, (and nothing else), could have produced them. It is our wish, for the good of the whole, that every state may be the rival of its neighbor in the performance of whatever tends to ameliorate or improve the condition of society—and we have been so long accustomed to regard the *whole* republic, that no possible advancement in these things in any part of it, can excite our jealousy or fail to meet with our approbation, such as it is, to the full extent of its worth.

As has before been observed, much that applies to Virginia in her fraud on the representative principle, applies to Maryland—the city of Baltimore, that pays at least *one fourth* of the taxes and contains a fourth of all the efficient population of the sfate, has a *fortieth* part of the legislative power of the state of Maryland. How can we laugh, that, because Old Sarum, which is now without a house or a resident inhabitant, sends two members to the British parliament, while London with more than a million of people sends only four, or Manchester, with 120,000, sends none? The consequence is, that every census shews a reduction of political power in Maryland. Freemen will seek the place where liberty has her home and *equality* prevails.

FROM A KENTUCKY CORRESPONDENT.

"The meaning of words" and "application of principles" begin to be understood. When I commenced my profession of the law in this country in 1818, with an extensive circuit, almost every man who was able to buy for money or on credit, was clothed with European fabrics: now scarcely one in an hundred of the most respectable citizens wears an imported coat. Sheep are in high de-

mand, and weavers' shuttles and reeds are to be seen in the streets of all our towns, in the hands of farmers and others that have purchased them for their own use. Several factories for carding and spinning cotton are building. The people begin to think seriously on the subject of domestic manufactures, and have a great disposition to encourage them. [Here a compliment is paid to the REGISTER which we shall not repeat]. The young Pennsylvanian, (see page 118), shews correct thinking—such pens ought not to remain unemployed. The blessings of thousands of intelligent and thinking freemen accompany you and your correspondents in your labors. European notions, as given in their books on political economy, must be corrected and the public mind set right, before our workshops can be brought across the Atlantic. The great reform is going on—we look to you as an instrument to keep it in progression. What has become of our old friend, the author of the "meaning of words," &c. He was doing much good—and, for the sake of his country, I hope that he will resume his pen. I cannot see how any reasonable and unbiased mind can resist his evidences and arguments," &c.

ANOTHER KENTUCKY CORRESPONDENT writes as follows—which, as the subject-matter is so great a rarity, we cannot refuse to lay it before our readers, for their consideration. This gentleman thinks justly and has acted nobly. Would that all else might believe that money was necessary to the carrying on of our business!

Mr. Niles. I enclose you a $5 note of the Valley bank of Virginia, in advance for my next year's Register. Times are getting a little better with us. This note only cost me $10 of our currency, and there is a probability that exchange will be much lower. It would be to my interest to wait and buy at a lower rate to send to you; *but I know you must have cash or quit your business, and it is better for each customer to lose a little than for you to lose thousands.*"

SOUTH CAROLINA. The following petition, of one of the Catawba tribe of Indians, was lately presented to the legislature of this state.

"*To the councils of South Carolina.*

I am one of the lingering embers of an almost extinguished race—our graves will soon be our habitations. I am one of the few stalks that still remain in the field, when the tempest of the revolution is past. *I fought against the British for your sake*—the British have disappeared, and *you are free:* yet, from me, the British took nothing—nor have I gained any thing by their defeat. I pursue the deer for my subsistence—the deer are disappearing, and I must starve. God ordained me for the forest, and my habitation is the shade—but the strength of my arm decays, and my feet fail in the chase. The hand which fought for your liberty, is now open for your relief. In my youth, I bled in battle that you might be independent—let not my heart, in my old age, bleed for the want of your commisseration.

(Signed) PETER HARRIS."

KENTUCKY. *Richmond, Nov.* 22. The letter we published to-day, from our correspondent on the state road, is quite gratifying to all who feel a deep interest in the prosperity and credit of Kentucky. The best law-givers we have ever had to relieve the country of the heavy debt she has been long groaning under, are those whose industry rears our stock and carries it to market. There is no mistake in this kind of relief—it requires no Commonwealth's bank as its handmaid. It's all a real transaction.—*Chronicle.*

TO THE EDITOR.

Cumberland Ford, Ky. Nov. 14, 1822.

SIR: At this time, there have passed this place, 45,421 live hogs for market—say they are worth 7 dollars each, which, in my opinion, is a moderate calculation, amounts to 317,947 dollars. 5,446 horses and mules, at an average of 80 dollars each, makes 435,680 dollars. Only 236 stall-fed steers, as yet, say worth 40 dollars each, makes 9,440. Two or three thousand hogs, I hear, are on the road to be added to the above list; which, when arrived, you shall have the correct amount at the year's end. If only 2,000 comes, they will add to the amount 14,000 dollars more, making in all, (at the lowest calculation of mine), 777,067 in *good money.* I trust the time is not very distant, when Kentucky will restore her credit, and there will be no more relief measures prayed for, nor stop laws passed; which have so much disgraced one of the most prolific and rich states in the union, whose sons are bold and enterprizing, beyond any, I believe, in the world.

FOREIGN NEWS. We had a number of items prepared for this paper, but must omit all except those inserted below:

Turkey. The Turks are again driven out of the Morea, after a series of engagements in which they lost great numbers of men. In one of those battles, near Corinth, they left 3,000 men on the field, among whom was Ali Pacha, formerly grand vizier—the pacha of Thessaly was made prisoner. After this the Turks separated, and several of their corps were destroyed—all killed or made prisoners. In Candia, also, the barbarians have been defeated, and were shut up in the fortresses. Another naval victory, gained by the Greeks, is mentioned.

A French paper reports that Alexander had declared his intention of changing his system in regard to the Turks, and of employing "force to compel the barbarous government of Constantinople to make concessions."

The war with Persia still goes on—a Turkish army, of 50,000 men, had been defeated near Trebisond, which had been entered by the Persians, who are also said to be in possession of Mesopotamia, Armenia, &c. It was reported that they were advancing on Anatolia, and that many Turkish towns on the Black sea had revolted. Other places in Syria, as well as Aleppo, have greatly suffered by earthquakes—in that unfortunate city only *one* habitable house is said to be left standing!—20,000 persons were killed and an "immense number wounded." Two thousand houses, generally small, were lately destroyed by fire at Constantinople. The plague has appeared in many parts of the empire. The Russian army, that was falling back from the Turkish frontier, had received orders to maintain its position. An extraordinary divan was lately held at Constantinople, at which notes were agreed upon to the ministers of Austria, France and Prussia, explaining the reasons of the sultan for refusing a renewal of the ancient relations of the Porte with Russia. The Wechabites are again in arms, and lately destroyed and carried off a whole caravan, proceeding from Mecca to Medina, killing from 9 to 10,000 Turks. "In the midst of the disasters, says a letter from Constantinople, the Turks crowd their mosques and predict the dissolution of their empire." May their predictions be realized!

Colombia. A despatch from Morales, dated the 4th Nov. states that, on the preceding day, near

Garabuya, he had had a battle with a body of the enemy, consisting of 1200 infantry and 100 cavalry; and that, after a hard fight, the "rebels" were surrounded and completely defeated, leaving 1,000 muskets, 800 prisoners with 36 officers, 100 dead and 160 wounded, two colors and all their stores in his hands.

Agricultural Societies of Virginia.

The following is an extract from one of the papers directed to be published by the delegation of the United Agricultural societies of Virginia, at the meeting held at Petersburg, on the 7th instant. It is from an address delivered to the Nottoway society, by its president, *Dr. James Jones*, on the 20th November, 1822.

It has fallen to my lot, (and I deem it a fortunate incident in my life), to present to the national legislature one of the first memorials which that body has ever received in defence of the rights of agriculture, in opposition to the monopolizing claims and pretensions of the manufacturing interest of the United States. The firm and dignified tone of remonstrance, with the forcible appeal to the good sense and justice of congress, contained in those memorials, I doubt not, had the effect, in a great degree, to arrest that body in one of the most baneful systems of policy that ever disgraced any nation, professing to be governed by impartial laws, based upon the principle of equal rights; a system of policy which would lay prostrate at the feet of the most insignificant and inconsiderable interest in this nation, the whole of that course of administration by which we have grown to renown, to wealth, to prosperity, and to a dignified rank among the nations of the earth; a policy which would drive this nation from a course of measures pointed out to her by the unerring hand of nature, which has stamped upon our geographical chart, in indelible characters, "that agriculture and commerce should be the principal occupations of our people." This foul spirit of monopoly, of local and partial legislation, so frequently and so fatally insinuating itself into our legislatures, whether in the form of protecting duties, to encourage domestic manufactures, or of privileged chartered incorporations, of whatever description, remains yet to be *exorcised* from its unhallowed hold upon our institutions, by the all-pervading and all controuling influence of public opinion. This influence, embodied in a new form, and derived from a source hitherto silent and overlooked, has already begun the work of reformation in this behalf. The agricultural interest, throughout the United States, have, at length, discovered in what way it has happened that all other interests have mounted over their heads into the favor and patronage of government; to *their* manifest injury and gross injustice. *They* too have indulged the feelings and obeyed the impulses of the "*Esprit de Corps*:"—They have followed the example set them by the commercial and manufacturing interest, by embodying themselves, and, as a distinct separate interest, have addressed the government in language manly, independent, and disinterested. "We ask you, 'say they' "for no favor, no exclusive privilege, no charter of incorporation. We call to your recollection the instruments by which our independence was achieved. It was the yeomanry of the country, nurtured and cherished in the lap of rural occupation: From their bosoms the republican spirit was transfused into our political institutions. Monopoly, privileged orders, chartered rights were the bane of that government from which we seceded. We threw it off on account of the mischiefs produced by that course of policy in the mother country.—*Our* government was made *by* the whole *for* the whole, and no exclusive privilege can be conferred, but as a reward of services rendered to the public. *Let us all alone* We demand only protection in our persons and in our property—leave private individual enterprize to its own guidance and direction, equally untrammelled by the officious interference of government in the form of restriction or of a pretended fostering care. Pursue your legislative career under the constitutional prescriptions of a definite and specified power, not by the unwarranted inferences of a loose construction of general phrases. Give to all an equal participation in the blessings of free government, by adopting a system of *general* policy; not by *local*, partial legislation, for a particular interest, with the false insidious pretence that *all may* indirectly come in for a share of the benefit. It is to this latter principle we trace that policy which, in all ages, has led to the establishment of despotic governments, and, from the practical operations of which, particularly in the hierarchical institutions of England, we were driven into successful opposition to that power."

With sentiments like these, addressed to the understandings and justice of congress, we will not doubt of success in reclaiming that body to a course of correct and legitimate and constitutional policy, at least so long as that body shall be composed of a majority of those who represent the laboring and productive interest of the country, in contradistinction from speculative interest.

The great mischiefs attendant upon all the governments that have ever existed, have arisen from an officious, meddling, disposition, in those who govern, to regulate every thing in society. This, however, should not be considered extraordinary in those governments which were made exclusively for the benefit of the few privileged orders; because without such universal and constant superintendance and regulation, they could not wield and manage the machinery to the purposes intended by its formation. Hence has originated in despotisms the bold assumption of a power, not only to regutate the high and important concerns of conscience, in the form of establishments of religion and test acts, but, also, the more insignificant and petty concerns of private domestic economy. But, in the United States, where we have proceeded upon a belief that man is competent to self government, it would be natural to suppose that political power should abstain from all interference with the affairs of society, except so far as to exercise a salutary parental power of protecting the weak against the strong, and restraining and coercing the vicious, the refractory and the violent, at the same time allowing all to pursue their own happiness in their own way, strictly regarding the rights of their neighbors. Whatever political measure shall detract either from the profits or the respectability of any avocation in society, must necessarily do it an injury; nor is it less true that, whenever goverment shall lend its fostering aid to any particular branch of industry, it will, therefore, give it an impulse which may force it ahead of others, not so favored. For many centuries preceding the revolution in France, the royal favour and patronage were exclusively bestowed upon the church and the army: and, by amalgamating these two interests with the hereditary nobility of the country, it was not surprising that all honor, as well as emolument, attached exclusively to them. The consequence

was that agriculture, commerce and manufactures, being viewed and treated merely as subservient and auxiliary to the promotion and aggrandizement of these other leading interests, became disreputable and unprofitable, and were pursued exclusively by those only, who, in the fashionable slang of the times, were termed the *ignoble*, the *vulgar*, the *rabble*, &c.

The history of other governments in Europe, which, like France, have had a feudal origin, would furnish instances equally apposite to our purpose, which is to shew the all pervading influence of political power in directing the destines of man in this world. Nor is it important, as to results, whether such power is exercised under the title of a republic, or of an aristocracy, or of a monarchy. The effects will always be the same, if the causes are of the same nature. It matters not, as to results, whether the great laboring interest is ground to dust by the operation of a tythe to churchmen, under the specious and imposing pretext of supporting the hallowed institutions of religion, or whether it be done by the operation of chartered privileges, in the more dangerous, (because less intelligible and more insidious), form of protecting duties for the support of manufactures, and charters to banking institutions. He must, indeed, be a short-sighted politician, and unacquainted with the plainest and most obvious principles of political economy, who does not preceive that all such monopolies derive their support from the class of productive labor. Equivalents, it is true, are promised: It is said that labor shall find in those chartered bodies a surer and more convenient market for its productions; but, with these false pretences in their mouths, the politicians of Great Britain have gone on, for more than a century, in the practice of a system whose monstrous effects begin now to develope themselves in the bankruptcy and ruin of nearly a moiety of their laboring population.

Whilst, then, gentlemen, as a society, we keep steadily in view the important subject of agricultural improvements, by communicating the results of experiments and of practice, and by a mutual interchange of opinions, let us equally guard and protect the rights of agriculture, by joining with our brethren throughout the United States whenever the occasion shall call for it, in a mild, but firm and manly, tone of remonstrance against every branch of our goverment policy, which shall be found to operate injuriously to agriculture, and, of course, ought to be considered as partial, unjust and oppressive.

Religious Liberty.

LEGISLATURE OF MARYLAND.

House of Delegates, Dec. 18, 1822.

Mr. *Thomas Kennedy* delivered the following report:

The committee appointed to bring in a bill entitled, an act to extend to the citizens of Maryland, the same civil rights and religious privileges that are enjoyed under "the constitution of the United States," respectfully ask leave to report,

That they have taken the subject into their serious consideration, and it is a subject of far greater importance than may at the first glance be imagined; it is a subject in which the honor, the character, the interest and the future prosperity of the state, are all deeply interested.

Religious liberty does not exist in Maryland; for religious liberty cannot be said to exist under any government, where men are not permitted to worship God in the manner most agreeable to the dictates of their own consciences, or what is the same thing, denied the enjoyment of civil rights, and rendered incapable of holding any office civil, military or judicial, except they acknowledge their belief in a particular system of religion.

The constitution of Maryland was framed at an early period of the revolution—when ancient prejudices had a strong influence over the mind, when it was considered as going far in the work of reformation, to declare that there should be no established church in the state, and it certainly required great exertions to effectuate that object, for in Maryland, as well as in other states, even the christian sects, Catholics particularly, had formerly been proscribed, and we may at once see how strongly these prejudices influenced the minds of the wise and worthy framers of our constitution, when in one breath they declare, "that it is the duty of every man to worship God in such a manner as he thinks most acceptable to him." And in the next, that it was only professing christians who were entitled to protection in their religious liberty.*

When the revolutionary war was at an end, and the people of the United States had time to give the principles of government, and of civil and religious liberty a fair and a full examination; when the immortal Washington and his illustrious compeers, selected from every state in the union, met in convention to frame a constitution, which was ratified by the people of the United States, they unanimously declared, that "no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification of any office or public trust, under the United States." Such a declaration, at such a time, and from such an assemblage, comprising a greater share of talents, virtue, and patriotism, than our own, or perhaps any other country will ever again exhibit, calls loudly for our admiration. They broke the last link of religious tyranny, and put an end to the dominion of superstition—the free, sovereign and independent people of the United States, echoed and re-echoed the noble sentiment—"No religious test shall ever be required"—even Maryland joined in the general acclamations, and hailed the glad tidings with joy; and we find the names of a McHenry, a Jenifer, and a Carroll, attached to that instrument under which the United States have risen to glory and greatness.

The only state constitution which imposes a restriction in any degree similar to that of Maryland, is that of Massachusetts, which was also adopted during the revolutionary war, and even that is only applicable to a few offices. The state of Maine, which formed part of Massachusetts, and was received into the union a few years past, has made it a part of her constitution, that no religious test shall be required as a qualification for office. The adjoining state of Delaware was the first to follow the footsteps of Washington in this respect, and to use the same words in her constitution as in that of the United States. Tennessee, Ohio, Illinois and Alabama have all incorporated the same declaration in theirs—and all the other states have recognized religious liberty as a "natural unalienable

*Declaration of rights, article 33.

right" (1)—"as an inestimable privilege" (2)—as a right to be enjoyed "without discrimination or preference" (3)—"to cause no abridgment of civil rights" (4)—that "no human authority can in any case whatever, control or interfere with the rights of conscience" (5)—"that no person shall be denied the enjoyment of any civil right merely on account of his religion" (7)—and wherever they have not recognized the most perfect freedom in religious matters, they do not require as a qualification for office any other test than a simple oath.

Maryland, therefore, stands alone in this respect; and your committee ask—and may ask with confidence, why should Maryland continue to retain this feature in her constitution, since it has been virtually abolished by the constitution of the United States, and is at once inconsistent with the dictates of wisdom and common sense, and is not sanctioned by any authority either human or divine.—We have no right to interfere with the religious opinions of others—we have no right to prescribe those who differ from us on religious subjects—we are answerable in this respect, to our great creator, to God, not to man.

Shall that religion which was announced to humble shepherds on the plains of Bethlehem as the "glad tidings of great joy"—as proclaiming "on earth peace, good will towards men"—that religion which commands us to "love our neighbors as ourselves"—shall that religion be used any longer in Maryland as a political instrument to deprive worthy and virtuous citizens of their just rights. (3) Principles are eternal, and whether we prescribe from office ten, or ten thousand citizens, it amounts to the same thing, and is equally contrary to the law of God which is written in every heart, and directly at variance with that precept which proceeded from the lips of our divine Master "whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so to them;" and who so controverts this sacred command, may call himself a christian, may be a recorded christian, but he is not a christian indeed and in truth; he is not a real disciple of the meek and lowly Jesus who declared that his "kingdom was not of this world."

Situated as Maryland is, in the midst of large and powerful states, who have universally thrown open the doors of office and honor to all whose talents and merit entitle them to the confidence of the people; it becomes our interest, as well as our duty, to let the world know that in Maryland as well as in the other states, civil and religious liberty is enjoyed in its fullest extent. Nor can we hope for prosperity as a state, until we do justice to all men.

Your committee, will only further call the attention of the house to the inconsistency of retaining in the constitution a provision which is at war with the principles of civil and religious liberty, and remark that the same citizens whom the people cannot chose to represent them in the state legislature may be by the same people elected to congress, and may also be elected to the presidential chair; that he who cannot be a justice of the peace in Maryland, may be chief justice of the U. States; and he who cannot be an ensign in the militia may command the army of the nation; such inconsistency is too glaring—too ridiculous to be longer tolerated by a free people.

This question has been presented to the consideration of former legislatures in another from—It is now presented to your consideration on what your committee think is the true ground; on the ground of extending to all the citizens of Maryland without distinction of sect or name, the same civil rights and religious privileges that are enjoyed within the constitution of the United States, and surely no danger can arise from our following the example of our sister states—or from incorporating into the constitution of Maryland the language used in the constitution of the United States, we, therefore, ask leave to report a bill to that effect. All which is respectfully submitted.

JOSHUA COCKEY, jr. clerk.

AN ACT

To extend to the citizens of Maryland the same civil rights and religious privileges that are enjoyed under the constitution of the U. States.

Whereas, By the declaration of rights of this state, it is declared "that it is the duty of every man to worship God in such manner as he thinks most acceptable to him."

And Whereas, By the constitution of the United States, which is the supreme law of the land, it is declared that, "no religious test shall be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under the U. States."

And whereas, certain citizens of Maryland are deprived of civil rights, and rendered incapable of holding offices on account of their religious principles; *therefore*,

Section 1. *Be it enacted by the general assembly of Maryland*, That no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under this state of Maryland.

Sec. 2. *And be it enacted*, That all such parts of the declaration of rights and constitution and form of government of this state as are inconsistent with the provisions of this act, be, and the same are hereby abrogated, annulled and made void.

Sec. 3. *And be it enacted*, That if this act shall be confirmed by the general assembly of Maryland, after the next election of delegates, in the first session after such new election, as the constitution and form of government directs, in such case, this act, and the alterations of the constitution therein contained, shall constitute and be valid as a part of the said constitution and form of government, to all intents and purposes, any thing therein contained, to the contrary notwithstanding.

The following resolutions were introduced into the senate of Maryland, by Mr. *Chambers*, and, have since passed both branches of the legislature *unanimously*.

Resolutions approving the measures of the general government.

Whereas, the state of Maryland is in a peculiar degree dependent on that aid and protection, to secure which, was the great object of the confederation of these United States, and especially is exposed from its vast extent of navigable waters, and the geographical position of the city of Baltimore, to the attacks of a maratime enemy, who, as has been demonstrated by the events of the late war can harrass our citizens, plunder and destroy our property, pos-

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(1) Constitutions of North Carolina and New-Hampshire.
(2) New Jersey.
(3) New York and South Carolina.
(4) Vermont.
(5) Constitution of Pennsylvania.
(6) Georgia.
(7) Kentucky and Mississippi.

sess themselves of our territory, prevent our necessary transactions, so far as a large proportion of our citizens are affected. And whereas, exemption from such danger to the lives and exposure of the fortunes of our citizens, can only be secured to us, by the liberal application of those means which the good people of these United States, have placed at the disposal of the government of the union, for the common defence and general welfare; and it is not only the soundest policy, but the best dictate of prudent economy, to use the period when a general peace and the ordinary resources of our country afford opportunity to the government to provide for the defects in our system, which a state of war has disclosed, and to be prepared against a recurrence of injuries, which may be repeated at a moment, impossible by any political calculation to be anticipated.

And whereas, it is at all times the duty of the citizens of a free government, to deliberate on the policy and measures of those to whom they have confided the administration of their political concerns, and on occasions when contrariety of opinion is entertained on matters vitally affecting their best interests with candor and firmness.

We the members of the senate, and house of delegates, acting as the representatives of the people of Maryland, and influenced by a belief, that it is highly expedient in the present situation of our political concerns to announce the opinions and wishes of the people of this state, in relation to such measures of the government of the United States, as have in view the better security of our country against the approaches of a hostile maritime force do therefore

Resolve, That we cordially approve the efforts of the general government, to foster our navy and to cause a progressive increase of this means of defence, which experience has taught us to regard as necessary to our protection and to the maintainance of that high and dignified character which has exalted our country amongst the nations of the earth.—That we cordially approve of every effort of the general government to extend and perfect a system of defence by fortifications highly useful in other places, and essentially necessary to the waters of the Chesapeake and its tributary rivers.

And whereas, from the relative position of this state, and those vast sources of successful enterprize and wealth, the rivers Potomac and Susquehanna, as well as from the relation of our largest city, to an extensive district of inland country. It is of the utmost importance to our citizens that a system of internal improvement shall be vigorously pursued: Therefore, we do further resolve, That we will highly approbate and zealously co operate with the general government in the adoption of such measures as will afford to our country the facilities and advantages which nature has placed in our control, and which a wise policy should induce us to improve.

Resolved, That a copy of the foregoing preamble and resolutions be forwarded by the executive to each of our senators and representatives in congress, with a request that they will co-operate in the promotion of the measures which in the sense of the legislature are best calculated for the interests of the union at large, and especially of this state.

Decree of Morales.

We have already noticed the following decree of the royal commander in Colombia, but shall repeat its insertion to give a nearer view of the subject—It is dated at Maracaybo, Sept. 15, 1822, and signed *Francisco Tomas Morales.*

DECREE.

Art. 1. All foreigners taken or found in the ranks—in any branch of administration of the enemy—with printing presses, or acting as editors of newspapers, of works relative to the present war, to the scenes of action in rebellious America, or the Roman Catholic religion, or in any manner offensive to the nation, its government or subjects, shall suffer death, after a short military trial, and their properties forfeited to the public chest.

Art. 2. Foreigners who may be found, although not in the exercise or under the circumstances aforesaid, but having introduced themselves into the country during its occupation by the enemy, shall be doomed to serve in the public works for three years, and their properties forfeited to the national treasury.

Art. 3. Those foreigners, who have been found in this capital and its environs, who, by an effect of national forbearance, have been exempted from the fate they deserved, both as regards their persons and properties, owing to their political and religious conduct having been hitherto unknown, shall quit all Spanish territory in the precise period of eight days, with their baggage, and other property which may have been given over to them; and they are warned not to return again, under pain of death, unless it be under the conditions and circumstances prescribed for the carrying on a legitimate commerce in the ports of Venezuela.

PROTEST OF CAPT. SPENCE, U. S. NAVY.

From the commander of the United States ship Cyane, and senior naval officer in the West Indies, to his excellency *Francis Tomas Morales*, general in chief of the Spanish royal forces on the Main.

Sir—I have been presented with your excellency's public decree of the 15th Sept. last—a declaration of the most despotic and sanguinary nature, against all foreigners, whose love of glory, commercial pursuit, and lawful occupations, may enlist them in the service, or detain them in the territories possessed by the enemies of Spain recognized by the United States as independent governments.

A manifesto so extraordinary, so hostile to the rights of nations, so disparaging and prejudicial to the character of the era in which we live, cannot fail to excite astonishment, and to attract the attention of all who wish to preserve civilization from the encroachments of barbarism, or have rights to protect from military misrule and invasion.

As commander in chief of the royal forces, ineffectually employed in Venezuela, you are accountable to your king only for your proceedings against his subjects. But, for acts of rapacity, cruelty and oppression exercised against foreigners—for their illegal imprisonment—for their seizure and the confiscation of their property—for their degradation under the aforesaid proclamation, you are answerable to the world, because, by such acts of hostility, you wage an indiscriminate war against all governments, and, by trampling on the sacred rights of man, place at defiance nations who hold the laws and humane usages of civilized society as rules of action.

War, under the mildest aspect, is a calamity to be deplored; but when to its inseparable horrors are superadded cruelties, perpetrated without necessity, and men, pursuing peaceable avocations,

are included in the most sanguinary proscriptions, without reference or respect to the nation which owes them protection, it becomes a demoniac scourge, a hydra curse, which policy and humanity are equally interested in arresting.

Against such a course of violence as you have proclaimed to the world, in behalf of my countrymen, I protest, and do hereby premonish your excellency, that to enforce the penalty, punishment and ignominy, threatened in your manifesto, against the citizens of the United States, who are at present, or who may hereafter be found by your excellency in the independent territories to which you refer, prosecuting their commercial concerns under the guarantee of laws and usages, which no christian soldier, fighting either for glory, his monarch, or his country, can violate with impunity.—The soldier, whose sword is stained with the blood of unoffending men, superfluously shed, wins not the wreath of the warrior, but the reputation of a recreant.

The blockade declared by general Morillo, to which your excellency alludes, exists not, neither has it, at any anterior period, been enforced in conformity to rules prescribed by the accepted decisions of the highest authorities, rendered valid by time and general acquiescence. It, therefore, has hitherto been a mere pretext for the interception of our lawful trade—for the seizure and detention of our property—for the abuse and maltreatment of our mariners--for purposes of plunder and outrage—all of which evils it has produced.

For spoliations committed on the commerce of the United States, under the sanction of that paper interdiction, restitution will be required—and to the dignity which characterizes the government of the republic is Spain indebted for that magnanimous forbearance from reprisal, justifiable on every principle of self-preservation and defence.

The citizens of the U. States, from the peaceful and neutral course prescribed by their government, are justly entitled to the respect of the belligerent parties, and if their enterprize induces them to reap the advantages of a lawful trade within territories alternately in the occupancy of either, they are there as citizens of a truly neutral power—a power that has at no time afforded aid, or exercised influence of any kind, in the present unhappy contest.

Between the United States and the sovereign of Spain there exists a treaty, recently made, and consecrated by the most formal observances, the acknowledged basis of which is good will and a cordial spirit of conciliation. How, then, in the face of this pledge of concord, do you, sir, undertake to threaten with forfeitures and ignominious penalties—with slavery and death—the citizens of a republic, who have a right to expect, under this token of friendship, safety and exemption from molestation.

Wrongs and injuries that may accrue to citizens of the union from your unlawful decrees, whether visited on their persons or property, will be numbered with the catalogue of outrages already sustained, and for which Spain must be answerable. Against all such wrongs and injuries I protest, and do hereby solemnly call upon your excellency to abstain from the adoption of measures fraught with most evil consequences—measures coercing a spirit of retaliation and reaction, the end and issue of which may be conceived, foreseen and prevented by your excellency. And I invite your excellency, as a lover of the character and honor of Spain, of the amity and good faith so happily preserved between her and the republic, to annul all such restrictions as lead to a violation of the laws of nations—as infringe the just rights of citizens of the United States—as deprive them of the benefits of peace, and tend to augment to an alarming amount the account which hereafter must inevitably be *balanced* between the two nations.

I have the honor to be, &c.

ROBERT TREAT SPENCE,
Senior naval officer of the United States in the West Indies.

Curracoa, 15th Nov. 1822.

PROTEST OF THE GOVERNOR OF CURRACOA.

The rear admiral, governor of Curracoa and its dependencies, to his excellency the general in chief of the Spanish army on the Main.

I had the honor, on the 4th inst. to receive your excellency's letter of the 18th October, together with an authentic copy of your excellency's decree, dated 15th September, ult. relative to the treatment which foreigners have to expect from your excellency, as expressed in the said decree, if they are found in the service or in the territories in possession of the enemies of the Spanish nation on the Main.

I will not enter into the measures of policy and safety which your excellency may think proper to adopt, wherever you have lawful authority, with regard to the rights of nations and warfare. I feel myself, however, in consequence of your excellency's said decree, obliged to oppose those measures which may be made applicable to, or exercised on Dutch subjects, who may be found engaged in lawful trade, or in the peaceable prosecution of their profession.

I refer myself to what I have already stated with regard to the blockade, namely: I will not acknowledge any other than such as is declared in conformity to the laws of nations, and duly enforced.

With respect to the threatened proceedings, I most solemnly deny the right your excellency presumes to have, of putting them in force against peaceable Dutchmen, subjects of the kingdom of the Netherlands, who may be found trafficking, or in the prosecution of their business or interests, which are not prohibited by laws and customs generally admitted and acknowledged by subjects of neutral powers, who do not interfere in the disputes or wars of others.

I thus protest against all and every act of violence or ill treatment, and against all injustice exercised by your excellency on Dutch subjects, either in their persons or property, for which, and for the consequences thereof, I hold your excellency responsible, whilst I reserve to myself all such measures and steps, which yor excellency's proceedings may render necessary for the maintenance of the dignity and rights of the Dutch nation, and for the protection of the persons and properties of her subjects.

I remain, with all consideration.

2. To make known the above-mentioned letter, with its annexed document, and our answer thereto, as given in the foregoing article, by publication in the usual manner, and through the medium of the Curracoa Gazette, in order that the said decree of the general in chief of the Spanish army on the Main, and our answer thereto, may come to the knowledge of all Dutch subjects.

The said governor, CANTZ'LAAR.

Curracoa, 5th November, 1822.

Annual Treasury Report.

In obedience to the direction of the "act supplementary to the act to establish the treasury department," the secretary of the treasury respectfully submits the following report:

1. *Of the public revenue and expenditure, of the years* 1821 *and* 1822.

The nett revenue which accrued from duties on imports and tonnage, during the year 1821, amounted to Dolls. 15,898,434 42

The actual receipts in the treasury, during the year 1821, including the loan of 5,000,000 dollars, amounted to Dolls. 19,573,703 72

Viz.

Customs	13,004,447 15	
Public lands, exclusive of Mississippi stock	1,212,966 46	
Arrears of internal duties and direct tax Dividend on stock in the Bank of the United States, and other incidental receipts	356,290 11	
Loan authorized by act of the 3d March, 1821, including a premium of 264,763 70 dolls. gained on the same	5,000,000 00	
Making, with the balances in the treasury, on the 1st of January, 1821, of	Dolls.	1,198,461 21
An aggregate of	Dolls.	20,772,164 93
The expenditures during the year 1821 amounted to	Dolls.	19,090,572 69
Civil, diplomatic and miscellaneous	2,241,871 54	
Military service, including fortifications, ordnance, Indian department, revolutionary and military pensions, arming the militia, and arrearages prior to the 1st January, 1817	5,162,364 47	
Naval service, including the gradual increase of the navy	3,319,243 06	
Public debt	8,367,093 62	
Leaving a balance in the treasury, on the 1st of Jan. 1822, of	Dolls.	1,681,592 24
The actual receipts in the treasury, during the three first quarters of the year 1822, are estimated to have amounted to	Dolls.	14,745,408 75

Viz.

Customs,	12,648,933 15	
Public lands, exclusive of Mississippi stock	1,298,484 56	
Arrears of internal duties and direct tax, dividend on stock in the bank, & other incidental receipts	391,871 76	
Balances of appropriations for the war and navy departments, returned to the treasury and carried to the surplus fund	406,119 28	
The actual receipts into the treasury, during the 4th quarter, are estimated at	5,000,000 00	
Making the total estimated receipts into the treasury, during the year 1822		19,745,408 75
And, with the balance in the treasury on the 1st of January, 1822, forming an aggregate of	Dolls.	21,427,000 99
The expenditures during the three first quarters of the year 1822, are estimated to have amounted to	12,278,653 32	

Viz.

Civil, diplomatic and miscellaneous	1,536,434 24	
Military service, including fortifications, ordnance, Indian department, revolutionary and military pensions, arming the militia, and arrearages prior to 1st January, 1817	4,930,210 68	
Naval service, including the gradual increase of the navy,	1,538,952 88	
Public debt	4,273,055 52	
The expenditures during the fourth quarter, including the redemption of 2,000,000 dollars of six per cent. stock of 1820, are estimated at	Dolls. 6,000,000 00	
Making the total estimated expenditure for the year 1822	Dolls.	18,278,653 32
And leaving in the treasury on the 1st of January, 1823, an estimated balance of	Dolls.	3,148,347 67

After deducting from this sum certain balances of appropriations, amounting to $1,232,212 11, which are necessary to effect the objects for which they were severally made, or have been deducted from the estimates, for the service of the ensuing year, a balance of $1,916,135 56, remains; which, with the receipts into the treasury during the year 1823, constitutes the means for defraying the current service of that year.

2. *Of the public debt.*

The funded debt which was contracted before the year 1812, and which was unredeemed on the 1st October, 1821, amounted to Dolls. 17,833,746 84

And that which was contracted subsequently to the 1st of January, 1812, and was unredeemed on the 1st of October, 1821, amounted to 75,852,458 18

Making the total amount of funded debt unredeemed on the 1st of October, 1821, 93,686,205 02

In the fourth quarter of that year there was issued treasury note six per cent. stock, to the amount of 390 40

Making an aggregate of 93,686,595 42

In the same quarter there was paid the sum of 262,738 75

Viz.—Reimbursements of six per cent. deferred stock, Dolls. 257,180 60

Redemption of Louisiana stock 5,558 15

Reducing the funded debt, on the 1st Jan. 1822, to 93,423,856 67

From that day to the 1st of October last, there was issued three per cent. stock to the amount of 143 02

Making an aggregate of 93,423,999 69

During the same period there was paid the sum of 380,980 02

Viz.—Reimbursement of six per cent. deferred stock 300,980 02

Redemption of six per cent stock of 1796, 80,000 00

Reducing the funded debt, on 1st. Oct. 1822, to 93,043,019 67

It is estimated that, in the 4th quarter of the present year there will be paid 2,265,588 07

Viz.—Reimbursement of six per cent. deferred stock 265,588 07

Redemption of six per cent. st'k of 1820, 2,000,000 00

Which will reduce the funded debt, unredeemed on the 1st of January, 1823, to 90,777,431 60

The amount of Treasury notes outstanding on the 1st of October, 1822, is estimated at 27,437 00

And the amount of Mississippi stock, unredeemed on that day at 26,735 94

3. *Of the estimate of the public revenue and expenditure for the year* 1823.

The gross amount of duties on imports and tonnage which accrued from the 1st of January, to the 30th of September last, both days included, is estimated at $19,500,000 00, and that of the whole year at $23,000,00 000.

It is estimated that the amount of debentures, issued during the same period, exceeds the amount issued during the corresponding period of the year 1821, by $86,000, and that the amount of debentures outstanding, on the 30th of September last, chargeable upon the revenue of 1823 is $234,000 more than was, on the same day in 1821, chargeable upon the revenue of 1822.

It is estimated the value of domestic articles exported from the United States in the year ending on the 30th of September last, has amounted to 49,874,079 00 dollars, and that foreign articles, exported during the same period, have amounted to $22,286,282.

As the receipts from the customs in the year 1823 depend, 1st, upon the amount of duty bonds which become due within that year, after deducting the expenses of collection, and the amount of debentures chargeable upon them: and, 2d, upon such portion of the duties secured in the 1st and 2d quarters of that year as are payable within the year, it is manifest that an increase in the amount of debentures chargeable upon the revenue of the year 1823, or a diminution of the importations of foreign merchandise during the two first quarters of that year, must necessarily diminish the receipts into the treasury. As debentures can be issued at

any time within twelve months after importation, chargeable upon bonds given for the duties upon such importation, it is impossible to foresee the amount which may be chargeable upon the bonds that are payable during the year 1823. The facts, however, which have been stated, justify the conclusion, that the amount of debentures which will be issued and charged upon the revenue of 1823, will considerably exceed the amount which was chargeable upon that of 1822. From the same facts, it is also presumed that the importations of the two first quarters of the year 1823 will be less than the corresponding quarters of the present year.

Giving due weight to all the facts connected with the subject, the receipts for the year 1823 may be estimated at $21,100,000

Viz.		
Customs	Dolls. 19,000,000 00	
Public lands	1,600,000 00	
Bank dividends	350,000 00	
Arrears of internal duties and direct tax, and incidental receipts	150,000 00	
To which is to be added the sum of		2,016,135 56
Remaining in the treasury after satisfying the balances of appropriations chargeable upon the revenue of 1822, which makes the entire means of the year 1823 amount to		23,016,135 56
The expenditure of the year 1823, is estimated at		15,059,597 22
Viz.		
Civil, diplomatic and miscellaneous	1,599,317 35	
Military service, including fortifications, ordnance, Indian department, revolutionary and military pensions, arming the militia, and arrearages prior to the 1st of January, 1817	5,134,292 75	
Naval service, including the gradual increase of the navy	2,723,987 12	
Public debt	5,602,000 00	
Which, being deducted from the above sum, will leave in the treasury, on the 1st day of January, 1824, after satisfying the current demands of the year 1823, a sum estimated at	Dolls.	7,956,538 34

Although the facts already disclosed justify the conclusion that the importations of the present year exceed the value of domestic articles exported during the year, yet there are no means of ascertaining the extent of that excess. If the custom house documents were to be considered conclusive evidence upon this subject, it would be apparent that the nation has, through the whole period of its existence, imported more in value than it has exported. But the fact is incontestible that the United States have enjoyed a more uninterrupted prosperity, and have increased their capital to a greater relative extent, than any of the nations with whom they have maintained commercial intercourse.

To shew that the custom-house documents cannot be considered conclusive evidence in this case, it is proper to observe—1st, That the value of articles paying duties ad valorem, imported into the United States, is ascertained by adding to the invoice value 20 per cent. if from beyond the Cape of Good Hope, and 10 per cent. from all other places; whilst the value of domestic articles exported is ascertained at the port of shipment without any such addition. 2d. The greatest portion of the importations and exportations are made in vessels of the United States. 3d. The capital employed in the trade of the North West Coast and the Pacific Ocean consists almost exclusively of the labor and enterprize of those engaged in it. Foreign articles, the proceeds of those enterprizes, imported into the United States, are, therefore, only equivalent to the labor and enterprize by which they were procured. 4th. The value of domestic articles exported is more imperfectly ascertained than of foreign articles imported; because it has not been considered necessary to resort to the same sanctions to enforce a compliance with the regulations which have been prescribed for that purpose. To ascertain the relative value of imports and exports, it is necessary—1st. That the same additions should be made to the invoice value of the latter as are required by law to be made to the former. 2d. The freight of domestic articles exported in American vessels should be added to their value, after deducting from it the freight of foreign articles imported in foreign vessels. 3d. The value of foreign articles imported in vessels engaged in the trade of the North West Coast and Pacific Ocean, the proceeds of the labor and enterprize of those by whom they are navigated, should be added to the domestic exports. 4th. It is impossible to ascertain what addition should be made to the value of the domectic exports, on account of the omission of the exporters to state correctly the value of articles exported by them; but, after making a liberal allowance for foreign articles illicitly introduced, or inaccurately invoiced, it is believed that a considerable addition should be made.

If, then, to the amount of domestic articles exported during the year ending on the 30th of September last, already estimated at 49,874,079, dolls. the additions should be made which the preceding facts and considerations appear to authorize, the value of our domestic exports during that period may be estimated at nearly $60,000,000.

Although no calculation has been completed, shewing the average rate of duty upon the value of foreign articles imported into the U. States, it is presumed that an importation of 60,000,000 dolls. of foreign merchandise will not produce a less revenue than $17,000,000. As the receipts from the customs during the year 1823 have been estimated at $19,000,000, it is probable that the receipts from the same source, in 1824, which will depend upon the importations of 1823, will not exceed 15,000,000. Under the most unfavorable circumstances, it is believed that the receipts of that year will be sufficient to discharge all demands upon the treasury which may be authorized by law.

If the current appropriations for the year 1825 shall be equal to those required by the estimates for the ensuing year, the expenditure of that year may be estimated at Dolls. 23,253,597 22

Viz.—current appropriations	Dolls. 8,578,722 22	
Permanent appropriations for arming the militia, and Indian annuities	378,875 00	
Gradual increase of the navy	500,000 00	
Public debt, including balances unapplied in 1823 and 1824, amounting to dolls. 8,796,000	Dolls. 18,796,000 00	

The means of the treasury to meet this extraordinary expenditure, consist,

1st. Of the balance which may be in the treasury on the 1st of January of that year, estimated at	Dolls. 8,000,000	
And, 2d. Of the receipts of that year, estimated at	19,000,000	
Viz.—Customs	Dolls. 17,000,000	
Public lands	1,600,000	
Bank dividends	350,000	
Incidental receipts	50,000	
Making together, an aggregate of		27,000,000 00
And leaving a deficit of about		Dolls 1,250,000 00

In the estimate, the receipts and expenditures of the year 1824 are estimated to be nearly equal. It is probable however, that the receipts may exceed, to a small extent, the expenditures; but there it at least an equal probability that the receipts for the year 1825 are estimated too high, In the year 1826, the expenditure, assuming the current appropriations to be the same as in the year 1823, may be estimated at 19,457,000 dollars, and the receipts at 19,000,000. As the appropriation of 500,000 dollars for the gradual increase of the navy expires

in that year, the annual expenditure may, for subsequent years, be estimated at 10,000,000 dollars, unless it shall be considered expedient to make further provision for the increase of that essential means of national defence.

It is probable that the annual revenue will be equal to that sum. To provide for the estimated deficit of the years 1825 and 1826, as well as to meet any extraordinary demands upon the treasury, which unforeseen exigencies may require, it is believed to be expedient that the revenue should be increased. This may be conveniently effected by a judicious revision of the tariff; which, while it will not prove onerous to the consumer, will simplify the labors of the officers of the revenue. At present, articles composed of wool, cotton, flax, and hemp, pay different rates of duty. Difficulties frequently occur in determining the duties to which such articles are subject. The provision in the tariff, that the duty upon articles composed of various materials shall be regulated by the material of chief value of which it is composed, is productive of frequent embarrassment and much inconvenience. It is, therefore, respectfully submitted, that all articles composed of wool, cotton, flax, hemp, or silk, or of which any of these materials is a component part, be subject to a duty of twenty-five per cent ad valorem.

The duties upon glass and paper, upon iron and lead, and upon all articles composed of the two latter materials, may also be increased with a view to the augmentation of the revenue. In all these cases, except articles composed of silk, it is probable that the effect of the proposed augmentation of duties, will gradually lead to an ample supply of those articles from our domestic manufactories. It is, however, presumed, that the revenue will continue to be augmented by the proposed alterations in the tariff until the public debt shall have been redeemed; after which the public expenditure, in time of peace, will be diminished to the extent of the sinking fund, which is, at present, 10,000,000 dollars. But if, contrary to present anticipations, the proposed augmentation of duties should, before the public debt be redeemed, produce a diminution of the revenue arising from the importation of those articles, a corresponding, if not a greater, augmentation may be confidently expected upon other articles imported into the United States. This supposition rests upon the two-fold conviction, that foreign articles, nearly equal to the value of the domestic exports, will be imported and consumed, and that the substitution of particular classes of domestic articles for those of foreign nations not only does not necessarily diminish the value of domestic exports, but usually tends to increase that value.

The duties upon various other articles, not in any degree connected with our domestic industry, may, likewise, be increased with a view to the augmentation of the public revenue. If the existing tariff shall, during the present session of congress, be judiciously revised for the purpose of augmenting the revenue, it is confidently believed that it will not only be amply sufficient to defray all the demands upon the treasury at present authorized by law, but that there will remain an annual surplus, subject to such disposition, for the promotion of the public welfare, as the wisdom of congress may direct.

Under the act of the 20th April last, authorizing the exchange of certain portions of the public debt for five per cent. stock, 36,704 77 dollars only have been exchanged. The increased demand for capital, for the prosecution of commercial enterprizes during the present year, and rise in the rate of interest, consequent upon that demand, which were not anticipated at the time that the measure was proposed, have prevented its execution.—Existing circumstances do not authorize the conclusion, that a measure of this natuae will be more successful during the next year. If the price of the public debt, in 1825, should be as high as it is at present, any portion of it, redeemable at the pleasure of the government, which should be unredeemed in that and subsequent years, after the application of the sinking fund, to that object, may be advantageously exchanged for stock redeemable at such periods as to give full operation to the sinking fund This may be effected, either directly by an exchange of stock, or indirectly by authorizing a loan to the amount of stock annually redeemable beyond the amount of the sinking fund applicable to that object.

All which is respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM H. CRAWFORD.

Treasury department,
December 23, 1822.

Public Documents

Accompanying the message of the preeident of the United States to congress, December 3, 1822.

THE ARMY.

Department of war, November 27, 1822.

Sir: In compliance with your directions, I herewith transmit statements from the major general of the army, and the several subordinate branches of this department, which give in detail the information requested.

In order to render the military organization more complete, the major general, after the late reduction of the army, under the act of 2d March, 1821, was stationed at the seat of government, thus bringing the military administration of the army, as well as its pecuniary, through the several subordinate branches, under the immediate inspection and control of the government. There is reason to believe that the arrangement will be highly useful.

The report of the major general, herewith transmitted, marked A, exhibits the present organization, strength, and distribution of the army. In the distribution, both in relation to the positions occupied, and the number at each post, regard has been had to the protection of important points, and the discipline of the troops. The artillery, with the exception of four companies on the lakes, and the one at West Point, has been assigned to the garrisoning of the various fortresses along the line of the sea coast, and the important ordnance depots in the interior; while the infantry, with the exception of a regiment at Pensocla, has been stationed at the important points in the interior, principally on the upper lakes, and the western frontier.

No change has been made in the course of the year in the distribution of troops, with the exception of transferring one company of artillery from Fernandina to Charleston harbor, one battalion of the 2d regiment of infantry from Sackett's Harbor to the Sault of St. Marie, at the outlet of lake Superior, and the whole of the 7th regiment from fort Scott and bay of St. Louis to the Arkansaw and Red rivers, to each of which one battalion has been assigned.

The inspector generals, (one of whom has been assigned to the artillery and the other to the infantry) have, in the performance of their duty, visited all of the posts and military depots in the course

of the year, with the exception of the posts on the Arkansaw and Red rivers, the inspection of which was prevented by the inspector being severely attacked by a fever while on his tour of inspection. In addition to the inspection by the inspector generals, the generals commanding the departments have inspected, or are in the course of inspection, of the whole of their respective commands.

The various articles which constitute the supplies of the army, have been, during the year, regularly issued, and of a good quality.

The report of the chief of engineers, marked B, exhibits the progresss which has been made in the course of the year in the erection of fortifications, also the operation of the board of engineers, and the corps of topographical engineers, and the present condition of the military academy; by reference to which it will appear that the important duties assigned to that department have been performed in a very satisfactory manner.

The report of the colonel of ordnance, marked C, contains an exhibit of the operations in that branch of service during the last year, comprising the operations of the armories, the ordnance depots, and the measures which have been taken in relation to the lead mines, the superintendance of which has recently been annexed to the ordnance department. The report satisfactorily shows, that this important department is gradually attaining a state of high perfection. The rigid inspection of the various ordnance depots, which has lately been made the duty of the inspector of artillery, will, it is believed, greatly contribute to improve this important branch of service.

The reports of the quartermaster general, paymaster general, surgeon general, and the commissary generals of provision and of purchases, herewith transmitted, marked D, E, F, G, and H, exhibit a very satisfactory view of the condition of their respective departments. On the 4th of March, 1817, there remained unsettled on the books of the 2d and 3d auditors, of the sums disbursed through this department previous to that date, $45,111,123 01, which, on the 30th of September last, was reduced to $4,689,292 95. Since the former period, there has been disbursed, through this department, $40,887,772, 83, of which, on the 30th of September last, there remained to be settled 6,290,110 60, dollars, the greater part of which consist of accounts in the ordinary and due course of settlement. Of the sums advanced in the year ending the 30th of September, 1821, to the officers under the control of this department, but $30,657 48 remained to be accounted for at the commencement of this quarter.

By reference to the statements in the reports of the subordinate branches of this department, already referred to, it will appear that there was drawn from the treasury, in the three first quarters of this year, on account of the army, military academy, fortifications and ordnance, 1,930,464 59, dolls. and that accounts, amounting to 1,737,072 30 dollars, have been rendered for settlement, leaving but $193,392 29 to be rendered, all, or nearly all, of which, it is believed, will be accounted for before the termination of the quarter; and there are reasonable grounds to believe that the disbursements of the year will be made without any loss to the government. Nearly the whole amount which is outstanding of the disbursements of the three first quarters of the year has been prevented from being accounted for, either by the sickness of the disbursing agents, or the very great distance of the posts at which the disbursements have been made.

Great reductions have been made in the amount of expenditures in every branch of service, as will appear by reference to the reports already referred to, which contain comparative statements of the present and former rates of expenditure.

All which is respectfully submitted.

J. C. CALHOUN.

HEAD-QUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Washington, 25th Nov. 1822.

SIR: In compliance with your instructions of the 6th instant, I have the honor to enclose the returns and statements following, viz:

A. A statement of the organization of the army, agreeably to the act of congress of the 2d March, 1821.

B. A return of the strength of the army, from the last regimental and other returns received at head quarters.

C. A statement of the distribution of the troops in the eastern department.

D. A similar statement of the troops in the western department.

E. A statement showing the number of men enlisted since the first of January last, the amount of moneys advanced since that date for the purposes of recruiting, and the amount to which recruiting accounts have been rendered for settlement.

In connection with the document last mentioned, I have the honor to state that, of $12,256 35 advanced for the recruiting service, the sum of 3,500 dollars was remitted, on the 22d of May last, to the most remote posts on the lakes, the upper Mississippi, Missouri, &c. for the re-enlistment of men whose terms of service were expiring, and sufficient time has not yet elapsed for the receipt of accounts of disbursements. The remainder of the advance has been made, since the date above mentioned, to commanding officers of regiments and to the superintendents of rendezvous, and from the promptitude with which these officers have rendered their accounts, there is every reason to believe that nearly the whole amount advanced will be accounted for by the 31st of December next.

In reply to that part of your communication directing a report of the inspections which have been made since the first of January, I have the honor to state that brevet major general Scott inspected in person, in the months of January, February March, and April, all the posts on the Atlantic frontier south of New-York.

Brevet Major General Gaines, during about the same time, inspected the posts of St. Marks and Pensacola, and Baton Rouge, with those on the Red River and Arkansaw, and was, at the date of the last advices from him, on a tour of inspection embracing the posts on the Missouri and the upper Mississippi.

Colonel Wool commenced a tour of inspection in June last, to embrace the troops and posts upon the northern, western, and southern lines of frontier. After passing from Green Bay, on lake Michigan, to the falls of St. Anthony, on the upper Mississippi, and from thence to Council Bluffs, he descended the Missouri, on his way to the Red River, and was left by the last advices convalescent of a dangerous illness, contracted by exposure in his efforts to accomplish the laborious services which had been assigned to him.

Colonel Archer has been engaged, since the 1st of January, in an inspection of the posts of Baton

Rouge, Pensacola, Mobile, and all the posts within the eastern department, garrisoned by the artillery. This inspection has also embraced the ordnance, ordnance stores, &c. at those posts, as well as at the different arsenals.

In this branch of service, so vital to the mechanical discipline and moral efficiency of the army, I owe it, in justice to those concerned in its performance, to say, that every possible exertion has been made to accomplish it effectually.

The commanding officers of the regiments of artillery within the eastern department, were directed, by major general Scott, in the month of August, to inspect their respective regiments; but no report has yet been received as to the execution of the order.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant, JACOB BROWN.

Hon. J. C. Calhoun, secretary of war.

[Here follows document A, as above described: the aggregates are,

Commissioned officers,	541
Non commissioned officers and privates	5642
Grand aggregate,	6183

B exhibits the latest return of the actual force; the aggregate of which is 5211.

C and D exhibit the distribution of force in the eastern and western departments, under the command of major general Winfield Scott and major general E. P. Gaines.

E. shews the enlistments made in the army since January 1, 1822—total 641.

Next come the following letters:

WAR DEPARTMENT, PENSION OFFICE,
November 8, 1822.

SIR: In conformity with your order of yesterday I have the honor of informing you, that the following sums have been transmitted to the agents for paying the United States' pensioners during the present year:

Revolutionary pensioners	$1,353,308 58
Invalid pensioners	303,094 24
Half pay, or commutation	12,689 30

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant, J. L. EDWARDS.

Hon. J. C. Calhoun, secretary of war.

B.

ENGINEER DEPARTMENT, *November* 14, 1822.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report in compliance with your order of the 6th inst. viz: "You will report, as early as practicable, the application of the appropriation of last session for fortifications to the several works, and the expenditure necessary for their completion. The works remaining to be commenced according to the plans of the board of engineers; the estimate of the board for those works; the progress of the board of engineers in its labors; comprehending the operations of the topographical engineers, from the commencement of this year; the condition of the military academy, including its present number, and the number which graduated last year; the amount drawn for the three first quarters of this year, under the several heads of appropriation; and the amount of accounts rendered and settled in the same period."

So much of the information above required, as can be exhibited in tables, will be found in those accompanying, marked A, B, and C; and the residue, relating to the board of engineers, the topographical engineers, and the military academy, is stated herewith.

Table A exhibits the sums appropriated at the last session, and their application to the several fortifications; and, also, those necessary for their completion. Of those appropriated, amounting to 350,000 dollars, the proportion applied in the three first quarters of the year is shewn to have been 221,154 dollars and 23 cents, and that applicable to the fourth quarter to be 128,845 dollars and 67 cents. These amounts indicate that the appropriations have been in a regular course of application.

Table B exhibits the works remaining to be commenced, according to the plans of the board of engineers, and the estimates of the board for them arranged into three classes, in the order of their efficiency to meet the earliest probable emergency.

Table C exhibits 274,665 dollars and 43 cents, as the aggregate of amounts drawn for the three first quarters of this year, under the several heads of appropriation; deducting from which 62,484 dollars and 84 cents, the amount unexpended in the hands of agents, at the expiration of the third quarter, there will remain to be accounted for, $212,180 and 59 cents. The accounts rendered for settlement, as shewn in the table, amount to $190,477 and 50 cents, which, being deducted from the last stated sum, will reduce the amount to be accounted for to 21,703 dollars and 5 cents, and this sum, with the exception of a trivial amount for contingent disbursements, not yet completed, will be covered by the accounts of captain De Russy for disbursements at Mobile Point, the rendition of which has been delayed in consequence of the sickness of captain De Russy.

The labors of the board of engineers commenced this year on the Gulf of Mexico, where, at the close of last year, they had arrived, on the completion of an examination of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, with a view to the improvement of their navigation, from the Falls of Ohio to the Balize. Having inspected and reported upon the condition of the Rigolets; re-examined the localities of Mobile Bay, and reported the result, which confirmed and strengthened their previous reports on the propriety of fortifying the east end of Dauphine Island, and reconnoitered Pensacola and its vicinity, they returned to New York, and shortly after repaired to this place. On their return to New York, they commenced immediately their report on the improvement of the navigation of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, and, at the same time, resumed the prosecution of their projects for the defence of Narraganset and Boston Bays. In June, besides the foregoing, they inspected and reported on the condition of Fort Diamond, and attended the examination at the military academy. In July, they commenced the projects for the defence of Salem and Marblehead; in August completed those for Narraganset roads, and in September completed their report, &c. respecting the Ohio and Mississippi rivers: The projects for Boston, Salem, and Marblehead, being still under prosecution at the close of the month.

The operations of the topographical engineers embraced surveys at Mobile and Pensacola Bays, and the contiguous coast; at Savanah river and at the coast adjoining; at Fort Royal and St. Helena sounds, Charleston, Georgetown, and their vicinities, in South Carolina; at Ocracock inlet, harbor and bar, in North Carolina; at Marblehead and Salem, in Massachusetts; at Kennebeck and Sheepscut rivers, and Mount Desart Bay and Island, in Maine; also, roads in Michigan, and the lead mines on the Upper Mississippi; besides plotting and drawings relating to the surveys just mentioned,

and others previously made, and the preparation for publication of an account of an expedition on the western waters.

The number of cadets belonging to the military academy amounted, on the 31st ult. to 248, and the number which graduated last year to 40. The condition of that institution is now, in every respect, more flourishing than it has been at any other period heretofore. This is manifest, equally, in the extent and value of attainment, as in subordination and cheerful observance of police regulations, and may be attributed, in a great measure, to the operation of the excellent rules and regulations adopted last year and now in force, together with the zeal and ability with which the duties of the superintendent and officers of the academy have been performed. The additional studies in the higher branches of mathematics and philosophy, although not long since introduced, have now become familiar, and are prosecuted with a zeal worthy of their importance.

Respectfully submitted,

ALEXANDER MACOMB,
Major gen. brv. chief engineer.

Hon. J. C. Calhoun, Secretary of War.

The tables A. B. & C.

A.—[ABSTRACT.]

The appropriations were—

Fort Delaware	20,000
Washington	25,000
Monroe	75,000
Calhoun	50,000
At Mobile Point, (collecting materials)	50,000
Rigolets and Chef Menteur	100,000
Opposite St. Philip, on the Mississippi, (collecting materials)	30,000
	350,000

On these works $221,154 33 cents, had been expended in the three first quarters of the year, leaving $128,845 67, for those of the last quarter. In no case had the appropriation been exceeded, and, as to two or three items, the balance in hand was large, for the reason that the appropriation could not be profitably expended, on account of the season, &c. as is set forth.

The following shews the balance of the appropriations remaining on hand and the amount estimated as necessary to *complete* the works—that on hand to be deducted from the whole sum given—

	On hand.	To complete the works.
Fort Delaware	6,600 00	57,899 80
Washington	6,181 14	46,077 98
Monroe	14,821 37	175,560 86
Calhoun	12,600 00	530,554 32
At Mobile Point	30,000 00	547,065 94
Rigolets, &c.	29,443 16	362,189 53
Opposite St. Philip	29,200 00	392,127 40
	128,845 67	2,111,475 83

Table B.—[given in full.]

Exhibiting the works remaining to be commenced, according to the plan of the board of engineers, and the estimates of the board for those works:

First class, to be commenced as soon as possible.

Designation of the works.	Estimate of the Board.
Fort St. Philip, Louisiana,	77,810 79
Battery at Bayou Bienvenue	94,582.30
Fort at Soller's point flats, (Patapsco river),	673,205 44
Fort at New Utrecht Point Narrows, New-York harbor	371,970 60
Redoubt in advance of ditto	53,024 72
Fort Tompkins, New-York	420,826 14
Redoubt in advance of ditto	65,162 44
Fort at Wilkin's point, New York	456,845 51
Fort at Throg's point, New York	471,181 53
Fort at Brenton's point, Rhode Island	575,514 10
Redoubt in advance of ditto	154,652 42
Fort at Dumpling's point, Rhode Island	579,946 56
Fort at Rose Island, Rhode Island	82,411 74
Dyke across west passage Narraganset Roads	205,000 00
Dolls.	4,282,134 30

Second class, to be commenced at a later period.

Designation of the works.	Estimate of the Board.
Fort at Grand Terre, Louisiana,	264,517 52
Tower at Pass au Heron, Mobile bay	16,677 41
Tower at Bayou Dupre	16,677 41
Fort at Hawkins' point, Patapsco river	244,337 14
Fort at St. Mary's, Potomac river	205,602 33
Fort opposite Pea Patch, Del. river,	347,257 71
Fort at Middle Ground, outer harbor, New York	1,681,411 66
Fort at East Bank, do.	1,681,411 66
Fort Hale, Connecticut,	31,815 83
Fort Wooster, do.	27,793 34
Fort Trumbull, do.	77,445 21
Fort Griswold, do.	132,230 41
Dolls.	4,727,177 63

Third class, to be commenced at a remote period.

Designation of the works.	Estimate of the Board.
The rafts to obstruct the channel between forts Monroe and Calhoun	240,568 00
Fort on Craney Island flats	258,465 00
do. New Port News	244,337 14
do. Naseway shoal	673,205 44
Dolls.	1,416,575 58

RECAPITULATION.

First class, 14 works	4,282,134 30
Second class, 12 works	4,727,177 63
Third class, 4 works	1,416,575 58
Dolls.	10,425,887 51

Remarks. The classification in this table, distinguishing three periods, exhibits the works enumerated in the order of their efficiency to meet the earliest possible emergency.

C.—[Noticed.]

This table gives only the amounts drawn and accounts rendered, and is not important except to shew a careful disbursement—unless on account of those on the southern coast, the one agrees with the other with remarkable accuracy; the accounts of the disbursements at the Rigolets, Chef Menteur, Mobile, &c. have not been rendered as yet, in consequence of the sickness with which the officer, charged with them, had been and yet was afflicted, at the date of his last report.

[Next follows a letter, signed 'Geo. Bomford, lieut. col. on ordnance duty,' offering certain suggestions for the better management of the lead mines belonging to the United States.

[Another letter, from the same officer, shews that, from the 1st January to 30th October, 1822, 16,800 muskets had been manufactured at the armories at Springfield and Harper's Ferry; 25,792 ditto cleaned and repaired at different arsenals, and gives a detail of all other minor things done at the various stations.

[He next gives a statement of the funds remitted during the same period—they amount to $311,347

15 cents; for which accounts are rendered to the amount of $297,852 16—leaving only $13,494 99 cents to be accounted for by the disbursing officers, who, it is estimated, have not really more than $2,000 in their hands.

[The comparative cost of muskets in 1817 and 1821, is then shewn. The average cost in 1817 was $13 90½; in 1821, $12 51½—difference $1 39. It is expected that the cost of making a musket will not exceed twelve dollars in the present year.

[Then follows a report from the quarter-master general's office, going to shew certain great savings made by the present system under which it is managed. The accounts appear well kept up, and the difference in the expenditures in this department is thus exhibited:

Expenditures in 1817,	$460,000 00
1822,	351,325 41
	108,674 59

This results from a comparison of the items common to both years.

[After which comes a letter from the paymaster general, detailing his affairs. The whole amount remitted in the three past quarters of the year was $693,925 47, of which 82,073 62 is to be accounted for hereafter. The debits and credits seem to be carefully attended to.

[The surgeon general also makes an interesting report—in 1806 and 1807, the appropriation to the medical department amounted to 4 dolls. per man; in 1810 and 1811, to 5 dolls.; in 1816, '17 and '18, to 7 dollars; in 1819 and '20, after the organization of the present system, to 3 dolls.; but, in 1822, the cost will only be at the rate of 2½ dolls. per man.

[The commissary general of subsistence shews a saving of *one-third* in favor of the present commissariat system, and yet the troops appear to be much better provided than they were. Only 10,729 dolls. are represented as being in the hands of the contractors and assistant commissaries, yet to be accounted for.

[The commissary-general of purchases gives a statement of his accounts—he reports a balance of cash in hand, amounting to $10,491, after all the purchases of clothing, &c. required for the service of the present year, are paid for. There has been a general saving in the cost of articles within this branch of the department. The expense of every item is minutely stated.]

Here ends the documents belonging to the department of war.

Seventeenth Congress—2nd session.

IN THE SENATE.

December 20. A bill concerning the lands to be granted to the state of Missouri for the purposes of education, and other public uses, and two private bills, were passed.

The senate then proceeded to the appointment of a committee on the subject of roads and canals, in pursuance of the resolution adopted yesterday, and Messrs. *Brown*, of Ohio, *King*, of New York, *Smith*, of Md. *Johnson*, of Ky. and *Rodney*, were appointed.

Mr. *Talbot*, from the select committee appointed on that subject, reported a bill making an appropriation (in blank) for repairing the national road from Cumberland to Wheeling; the bill was read.

Mr. *Johnson*, of Ky. in submitting the following resolution, observed that the information it proposed to call for was necessary to enable the committee on military affairs to proceed understandingly in the inquiry which they were instructed to make into the expediency of establishing an armory on the western waters; and, as it was desirable to enable the committee to commence that inquiry as early as practicable, he deemed it proper to submit the resolution, which he now laid on the table:

Resolved, That the president of the United States be requested to cause to be laid before the senate the number of arms required annually to supply the militia of the west, according to the acts of congress; the propable number necessary to be placed in the military deposites located, or to be located on the western waters; the cost of transportation of arms to the western states and deposites; the probable cost of manufacturing arms in the west; the probable cost of erecting, at this time, on the western waters, such an armory as that at Harper's ferry or at Springfield; and such other information as he may deem important to establish the expediency or inexpediency of erecting on the western waters a national armory.

The senate then went into the consideration of executive business, after which they

Adjourned to Monday.

December 23. Mr. *Noble* submitted the following for consideration:

Resolved, That the select committee on roads and canals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of modifying the act of congress, entitled "An act to authorize the appointment of commissioners to lay out the road therein mentioned," in such manner that the road named in the said act, shall be laid out through Columbus, Indianopolis, and Vandalia, the seats of government of the states of Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois; and to inquire also into the expediency of making a further appropriation for the purpose of completing the location of the said road.

The resolution submitted by Mr. *Johnson*, of Ken. on Friday, calling on the executive for information relative to the manufacture of arms, &c. was taken up and agreed to.

After attending to some minor affairs, the senate went into the consideration of executive business, and then adjourned.

December 24. Mr. *Homes*, of Maine, submitted the following resolution for consideration:

Resolved, That the president of the United States be requested to communicate to the senate such information as he may possess, of the commercial relations which now exist between the United States and the present government of St. Domingo; what is the political condition of the island; whether any European nation pretends to claim the government of the island; and whether any further commercial relations with the existing government would be consistent with the interest and safety of the United States.

The other business transacted this day will sufficiently appear in the future details of proceedings.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Friday, Dec. 20. Mr. *Nelson*, of Virginia, from the committee on the judiciary, to which the subject had been committed, reported a bill concerning the apportionment of representatives in the state of Alabama, which received its first and second reading, and was committed to the committee of the whole house.

The resolution yesterday moved by Mr. *Trimble*, requesting from the president of the United States information and estimates of the expense of fortifying Thompson's Island, commonly called Key West, on the coast of Florida, was then taken up; and the question being stated on agreeing thereto,

Some debate took place—the policy of establishing a naval depot on an *island*, was questioned by Mr. *Floyd*. Mr. *Trimble* was not sure that he should finally vote to establish a depot at Key West, but he thought the information that he sought was important and he briefly stated the following facts—"From Cape Florida to West Key is 70 miles; from West Key to Havana is 75 miles—and the island lies about 35 miles west of a direct line drawn from Cape Florida to Havana. It commands the commerce of the gulf stream better than Havana itself. Its harbor is sufficiently capacious for the whole navy of the United States to lie in, supposing it to consist of fifteen ships of the line, and a due proportion of vessels of a smaller class."

At last, the resolution was agreed to.

Mr. *Fuller* offered the following:

Resolved, That the secretary of the navy department be directed to inform this house what rules and regulations have been proposed by the board of commissioners and approved by the president, for the government of the navy of the United States, and how far a revision of the same may be necessary.

This resolve lies over for one day.

Mr. *Wright* submitted the following:

Resolved, That the committee on the militia be instructed to inquire into the expediency of arming the militia with rifles, except those residing in cities, towns, and villages, and report thereon by bill or otherwise.

Mr. W. supported his resolution by a speech of considerable length. He noticed the carnage at New Orleans, and said he had been told that, after the battle, a bet of a supper was made between the officers of two rifle corps from Georgia and Tennessee, of six shots aside, an hundred yards; that they shot at a paper on the mouth of a musket; that the Tennesseeans shot their six balls into the musket, on which the Georgians gave up the bet.

The resolution was ordered to lie on the table.

The house then, on motion of Mr *Fuller*, took up the bill, lying on the table from the last session, for incorporating the United States' naval fraternal association for the relief of the families of deceased officers; and the question being on ordering the bill to a third reading—

Mr. *Colden*, though entirely favorable to the object, asked if congress was *competent* to incorporate such an association? Mr. *Fuller* stated that the power of the corporation was limited by the bill to the district of Columbia, &c. The bill was recommitted, that it might be so amended as to remove some objections to it.

The engrossed bill to make perpetual the act of March 3, 1815, to regulate the collection of duties on imports and tonnage, was read a third time, *passed*, and sent to the senate for concurrence.

The following committees have been recently appointed by the speaker, in pursuance of the orders of the house of representatives:

On retrenchment. Messrs. Hardin, Whipple, Tracy, Holcombe, Ross, Williams, of N. C. Wm. Smith.

On the sales of city lots, &c. Messrs. Cocke, Woodcock, Warfield, Floyd, Lincoln.

On the bill to abolish imprisonment for debt. Messrs. Speed Smith, Nelson, of Va and Cuthbert.

Adjourned to Monday.

Monday Dec. 23. Mr. *Udree*, of Penn. elected in the place of Mr. *Worman*, deceased, appeared, was qualified and took his seat.

Mr. *Barstow*, of Massachusetts, also took his seat.

A memorial was presented by Mr. *Gorham*, of the merchants and others, inhabitants of Boston, interested in commerce, representing many defects in the present system for the collection of duties on imports and tonnage, and praying for a revision of said system, and that certain alterations specified in the memorial may be made in the said system, which memorial was referred to the committee of the whole house on the state of the union, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. *Little* presented a petition of sundry merchants of the city of Baltimore, praying for further compensation for damage sustained by their vessels, in consequence of their being sunk in the entrance of the habor of Baltimore to prevent the entrance of the British shipping into that harbor in the month of Sept. 1814; which petition was referred to the committee of claims.

The house then, on motion of Mr. *Tattnall*, resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. *Tomlinson* in the chair, on the report of a committee of the last session, condemning so much of certain treaties with the Cherokee and Creek Indians, as grants to those Indians the fee simple to certain lands in the state of Georgia.

[This appears to be a matter of great interest to the state of Georgia, and the object is to obtain an appropriation of money to extinguish the Indian title to certain "reserves" embraced in different treaties. As the house did not seem prepared to act on the case, the report was laid on the table for the present.]

The bill to make a road through the Black Swamp, in Ohio—that is, from the lower rapid of the Miami of lake Erie, to the western boundary of the Connecticut Western Reserve, agreeably to the provisions of the treaty of Brownstown, was next taken up and considered. Mr. *Vance*, of Ohio, gave a brief statement of the importance of such a road, not as being of much benefit to Ohio, but as of great benefit to the United States; saying that if this road had been constructed before the late war, millions of dollars would have been saved. The bill contemplates the grant of certain parcels of land bordering on the road, to enable the state of Ohio to make it. Ordered to lie on the table, that time might be allowed to consider it.

The bill to allow three representatives to the state of Alabama, was read a third time and *passed*. It appears that the federal number in this state, is returned at 125,401, though the returns of two counties had not yet been received.—So she has a population of 5,401 over the requisite amount to entitle her to three representatives without those counties.

On motion of Mr. *Gorham*, of Massachusetts, the house resolved itself into a committee of the whole Mr. *Campbell*, of Ohio, in the chair, on the bill in addition to an act to continue in force the act to protect the commerce of the United States against pirates, and to punish the crime of piracy.

The object of this bill is to make certain classes in the act perpetual—no opposition was made thereto, and it was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time to morrow.

The house, in a committee of the whole, spent much time on the bill providing for the examination of certain land titles in Louisiana. The committee rose at sun set, and had leave to sit again.

Tuesday, Dec. 24. Mr. *Dwight* presented a memorial, (which was read), signed by 138 citizens of Washington and Georgetown, praying congress to appropriate two or three millions of dollars for the assistance of the Greeks—Mr. D. preceded the presentation by a speech of some length, which we shall insert hereafter. The memorial was laid on the table.

On motion of Mr. *Ingham*, it was

Resolved, That the committee on roads and canals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of appropriating money for the purpose of aiding in the completion of a canal from the waters of the Chesapeake to those of the Delaware.

The bill to amend the act regulating the collection of duties on goods imported from adjacent states and territories; and the bill to make perpetual the provisions of the act for the punishment of piracy, &c. were severally read a third time, *passed*, and sent to the senate for concurrence.

The rest of the day was spent on the bill for examining titles to land in Louisiana—it was ordered to lie on the table for the present.

The speaker presented the annual report of the secretary of the treasury, of which 5,000 copies were ordered to be printed.

The house adjourned until *Friday*.

PRINTED BY WILLIAM OGDEN NILES, AT THE FRANKLIN PRESS, WATER-STREET, EAST OF SOUTH-STREET.